



DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

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**JULY 4 WEEKEND REMINDER: FIREWORKS, ALCOHOL NOT PERMITTED
IN STATE PARKS, FORESTS, HARBORS**

HILO — The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is reminding the public about safety precautions during the Fourth of July Celebration in Hilo.

“We encourage people to enjoy the parks and use them responsibly on this national holiday. To protect public safety and natural resources, we are reminding the public of the following rules that need to be observed over the Fourth of July weekend,” said Laura H. Thielen, DLNR chairperson.

The consumption of alcohol and the use of fireworks are prohibited within all state parks, forest reserves, unencumbered lands and small boat harbors;

Open fires and driving on the beach and unleashed dogs in these areas are also prohibited (HAR Ch. 13-221-3, 13-22-11).

Tents, canopies, and vehicles on the grass are prohibited within the Wailoa River State Recreation Area, including areas mauka of Kamehameha Avenue to Pauahi St., and the Hapuna Beach State Recreation Area, including the Waialea Bay section.

DLNR enforcement officers will make spot checks at locations statewide to ensure that all boats, personal water craft and kayaks are equipped with required safety equipment onboard, and that gear is operational and up to date. Officers may also inspect for overloading, boating under the influence, and other rules and regulations established by DLNR and Coast Guard.

As the fireworks display will be set off from Coconut Island, all vessels, thrill craft and kayaks in Hilo Bay must stay 300 yards away from Moku Ola (Coconut Island) on July 4, 2008, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

DLNR will also implement early closures, **at 6 p.m.**, of the following west Hawaii parks on July 4: Kekaha Kai State Park, Kaulana-Mahai‘ula section and the Maniniowali section (Kua bay) and the Hapuna Beach State Recreation Area, including the Waialea Bay section. The parks will reopen the next morning at normal park hours.

For more information or to report a violation, call: 974-6208 (Hilo), 327-4961 (Kona), 887-6196 (Kamuela) or 327-4961 (Kona). Or call the DLNR’s statewide 24-hour enforcement hotline at **643-DLNR**.

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For more information, contact:

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